

***I claim:***

1. A media drive cage, comprising:

5 a first slot having an opening and a termination, configured to receive a first protrusion of a media drive, and defining a plane of movement for the first protrusion as it travels along a path through the first slot from the opening to the termination; and

a first spring disposed adjacent to the termination and operable to engage the first protrusion before it reaches the termination.

10 2. The media drive cage of claim 1, wherein:

the first spring comprises a first engagement member, disposed at least partially in the path, for engaging the first protrusion; and

15 the first engagement member is biased toward the slot and is operable to deflect away from the slot in a direction orthogonal to the plane of movement in response to force applied by the first protrusion.

3. The media drive cage of claim 2, wherein:

20 the first engagement member comprises a substantially flat surface oriented to the path obliquely.

4. The media drive cage of claim 1, wherein:

the first protrusion comprises a screw head.

25 5. The media drive cage of claim 1, further comprising:

a resilient finger, disposed at the termination, for engaging the first protrusion.

6. The media drive cage of claim 5, wherein:  
the resilient finger is disposed transversely across at least part of the path.

7. The media drive cage of claim 5, wherein:  
the resilient finger is formed integrally with the material of the media drive cage.

8. The media drive cage of claim 1, further comprising:  
a second spring disposed adjacent to the opening and operable to engage the first  
protrusion as it enters the first slot.

9. The media drive cage of claim 5, wherein:  
the second spring comprises second and third engagement members, disposed at least  
partially in the path, for engaging the first protrusion and a second protrusion  
of the media drive; and

the second and third engagement members are biased toward the slot and are  
operable to deflect away from the slot in a direction orthogonal to the plane  
of movement in response to force applied by the first and second protrusions.

10. The media drive cage of claim 9, wherein:  
the second and third engagement members comprise substantially flat surfaces  
oriented to the path obliquely, the second engagement member inclined  
toward a media drive insertion direction and the third engagement member  
inclined toward a media drive removal direction.

11. The media drive cage of claim 9, wherein:

the third engagement member engages the second protrusion when the first protrusion engages the termination.

12. The media drive cage of claim 9, wherein:

the first and second springs are integrally formed from a single piece of metal.

13. The media drive cage of claim 1, further comprising:

a second slot configured to receive a third protrusion of the media drive; and  
a resilient latch disposed adjacent to the second slot, operable to engage the third protrusion when the first protrusion engages the termination, and operable to retain the media drive in the media drive cage when so engaged.

14. The media drive cage of claim 13, further comprising:

a resilient finger, disposed at a termination of the second slot, for engaging a fourth protrusion of the media drive.

15. The media drive cage of claim 13, wherein:

the resilient latch comprises molded plastic.

16. The media drive cage of claim 13, wherein:

the resilient latch comprises a hook portion and is operable to disengage from the third protrusion in response to a pulling force applied to the hook portion.

17. The media drive cage of claim 13, wherein:

the resilient latch is disposed adjacent to an opening of the second slot.

18. The media drive cage of claim 1, further comprising:  
means for latching the media drive in the media drive cage.

19. The media drive cage of claim 1, wherein:

5 the first slot is nonlinear and comprises first and second low sections disposed at the  
opening and the termination, respectively, and a high section disposed  
between the first and second low sections, the high section clearing the profile  
of the media drive when the media drive is fully inserted in the cage such that  
10 air may flow through the high section into or out of the cage, unimpeded by  
the media drive.

20. The media drive cage of claim 1, wherein the media drive cage comprises  
more than one identical media drive bays.